AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) Low-hygroscopic anhydrous mirtazapine crystals having (i) a water content of not more than 0.5% by weight and (ii) a hygroscopic degree of not more than 0.6% by weight when the crystals are stored in the air having a relative humidity of 75% at 25°C under atmospheric pressure for 500 hours.

2. (Original) The anhydrous mirtazapine crystals according to claim 1, wherein the crystals have characteristic diffraction peaks in the X-ray diffraction pattern, when angles of diffraction (2θ) are 9.14, 9.38, 14.16, 18.46, 18.56 and 20.56.

3. (Previously presented) The anhydrous mirtazapine crystals according to claim 1, wherein the crystals are prepared by a process comprising a step of drying the pulverized crystals at a heating temperature of 70°C to 110°C under a reduced pressure of 1.33 to 1995 Pa until the water content of the resulting anhydrous mirtazapine crystals becomes not more than 0.5% by weight.

4. (Previously presented) Low-hygroscopic anhydrous mirtazapine crystals of unlabeled mirtazapine having (i) a water content of not more than 0.5% by weight and (ii) a hygroscopic degree of not more than 0.6% by weight when the crystals are stored in the air having a relative humidity of 75% at 25°C under atmospheric pressure for 500 hours.

5. (Previously presented) Low-hygroscopic anhydrous mirtazapine crystals of unlabeled mirtazapine having (i) a water content of not more than 0.5% by weight and (ii) a hygroscopic degree of not more than 0.6% by weight when the crystals are stored in the air having a relative humidity of 75% at 25°C under atmospheric pressure for 500 hours, wherein the melting point of the crystals is 114-116°C.

6. (New) Low-hygroscopic anhydrous mirtazapine crystals of mirtazapine having (i) a water content of not more than 0.5% by weight and (ii) a hygroscopic degree of not more than 0.6% by weight when the crystals are stored in the air having a relative humidity of 75% at 25°C under atmospheric pressure for 500 hours, wherein the melting point of the crystals is 114-116°C.